

#### AFTERMATH OF THE T\*'\AR

been sent to Iraq in connection -with supplies or oil and the security of the Empire. On the other hand, report were heard ab&u: So-.ie: military concentrations north of the Azerbaijan border. Qavam's dramatic gesture on August 18 of arresting a number of the more unruly Tudeh leaders did not ease the tension. In the first -week of September a Bakhtiyari plot with the aim of overthrowing the gov-ernment was reported in Isfahan, and on September 23 an open tribal rebellion broke out in the Fars. A coalition of Qashqa:\*, Bakhtiyaris, and several minor tribes from Fars, Khuzisian, and the Gulf coast was formed under the leadership of Xasir Khan Qaslica:. It demanded the ousting of Tudeh ministers from the cabinet, local self-government for the southern provinces, and an increase in par-liamentary representation. A demand to this eirect to be forwarded, to Teheran was handed over by the coalition leaders on September 23 to General Mehdi Fatemi, Governor General of Fars. The rebels captured Bushire, Abadeh, Kazerun, Bandar Amir, and besieged Shiraz. The revolt spread even to Kerman, where an influential local leader, former Deputy Gobadian, joined the insurrectionists. In Fars the tribes created a revolutionary junta entitled *Sedan* and called their rebellion a National Movement. Their cause was sup-ported by the Moslem clergy of the south. A petition signed by a number of prominent religious leaders reached the government demanding elimination of the Tudeh from the cabinet and public life.

The Moscow radio and press openly accused the British of instigat-ing this revolt. Three British officials were special targets of Russian

anger. They were Colonel Underwood, British military tribal expert; Alan Charles Trott, Consul General at Ahwaz; and C. A. Gault, Consul General at Isfahan. Anxious lest their gains in Teheran be erased, the Russians dispatched to Iran the chief of the Middle East Department in the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This dignitary was reported to have pressed the Iranian government for speedy ratification of the oil agreement and also to have proposed an alliance with the suggestion that Iran withdraw from the Saadabad Pact of 1937.<sup>18</sup> The visit of the Soviet official was not without effect. On

is The Pact of Saadabad was concluded on July 3, 1937, by Iran, Turkey, Iraq, and Afghanistan. According to the Preamble the signatories were "animated by